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Revenue Department

Receipts and expenditure in the copyist section in the Revenue department.

* 645 Q.—Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur: With reference to the answer to my question No. 449 (*a*), dated the 27th February 1931, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there was any year in which the expenditure on copyists and copyist examiners in the Revenue department exceeded the receipts and, if so, what were those years and what was the excess expenditure in each such year; and

(*b*) what the total amount of such receipts and expenditure for the last twelve years has been?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have called for the information.

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur :—" May I know whether the information when received, will be made available to the Members of the House?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" I will consider the suggestion of the hon. Member."

Reduction of the copyist establishment in the Revenue offices.

11-15 a.m. * 646 Q.—Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur: With reference to the answer to clause (*b*) of question 449, dated 27th February 1931, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether there was any reduction in the copyist establishment of the Revenue offices and if so, on how many occasions and in how many offices?

A.—The Government have not the information.

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur :—" May I know whether the information will be called for?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" Sir, the compilation of this information would involve considerable time and trouble and I do not think it is worth it."

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur :—" This question was asked because the Government stated the other day that the strength of the copyist establishment in the Revenue department varied from year to year and consequently it could not be made permanent. Unless we know whether there has been any loss or not on account of these copyists, we cannot make out a case for their confirmation. So, I want to know what the total receipts and expenditure on the copyist establishment are."

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" The Government have already called for that information with reference to question No. 645."

Jails

Ill-health of Mr. K. Mohideen Kutty in Cuddalore Jail.

* 647 Q.—B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Kurudikandathil Mohideen Kutty, prisoner No. 1977 in the Cuddalore District Jail, has been suffering from rheumatism or any other disease, and if so, how long;

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(*b*) whether he has been admitted in the hospital, and if so, how long he has been in the hospital;

(*c*) whether the medical authorities of the jail had recommended that his further detention in the jail is dangerous to his health and that he should therefore be released; and

(*d*) whether the jail authorities have made any such recommendation to the Government, and if so, whether the Government have taken any action in the matter?

A.—(*a*) The prisoner has been suffering from chronic Myelitis since April 1929

(*b*) The Medical Officer, District Jail Hospital, Cuddalore, has reported that the convict is an in-patient in that hospital; There is no information as to how long he has been there.

(*c*) & (*d*) The Medical and Jail authorities have recommended the release of the convict on medical grounds under rule 514 (1) of the Jail Manual. The question of the convict's release is under the consideration of Government.

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"May I know when the Government received the recommendation of the Jail authorities to release the prisoner?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Recently. I am not in a position to mention the exact date."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"I find from the answer to clause (*a*) that the prisoner has been suffering from chronic Myelitis since April 1929. It is nearly two years. Is it only very recently that the Government have received a recommendation from the jail authorities for the release of the convict?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"There was a recommendation received some time last year, and the Government then made enquiries and found that the prisoner had only two relatives neither of whom was willing to take care of him after release. So the Government, in his own interests, could not send him out of the Jail at that time."

Political Prisoners

Number and class of political prisoners.

*648 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state the number of political prisoners sentenced up to date with particulars of the classes they have been placed under?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to question No. 286 on the 29th January 1931. The Government have no detailed information for the period subsequent to October 1930.

Arms Act

Cancellation of gun licences in South Kanara.

*649 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a considerable number of gun licences held by persons in the villages of South Kanara have been cancelled this time; and